

The dependent pensions bill has passed the senate and is now before the president for his approval. By its provisions it is estimated that nearly one hundred millions of dollars will be added to the annual expenditures of the government. This immense sum must necessarily continue as a fixed expenditure for many years to come, for new pensioners will appear upon the rolls as fast as the older veterans drop out of the ranks of life, and the burden is one against which many protests will yet come. We believe, in all candor, and we speak from the standpoint of those eligible to the beneficiary provisions of this bill, that the pension legislation is going too far, and that the old soldiers themselves do not ask it. In special instances the generosity of a grateful people might be properly invoked, but an indiscriminate award of annuities prostrates what should be a noble honor into the stigma of pauperism. The men who gave their services to their country in its dire extremity were not moved by mercenary motives. They responded to the call of the nation like brave patriots they were, and their esteem in the hearts of the people is a reward of far greater worth than money can purchase. They have received the honor they merited, and all the pecuniary recompense the nation promised them and no further financial obligation towards them by the government now exists. A sentiment of expressed gratitude is well enough, but the proffer of a nugatory sum of money doled out grudgingly by their country at once debases the veteran to the level of a pauper. There are, of course, many exceptions, where worthy objects of the nation's gratitude are deserving of liberal consideration, but we honestly believe we speak the sentiments of the large majority of the veterans of the late war when we say that they do not ask any further reward for doing their simple duty.

The republican territorial convention to be held on the 26th day of next August, will measure the respective strength of the two factions of that party. Already the steps are being taken by the Wolfley faction to control that body, and the main contest will take place at the primary election for the selection of delegates. The several county committees are being interviewed and the men who compose them suddenly find themselves objects of prominent interest in the coming struggle. A member of the central committee of Maricopa county, now sojourning in Florence, has been solicited to give his proxy to one of the staff of the "organ," but he did not succeed in his attempt to misrepresent the wishes of the committee, and no doubt like efforts will be made elsewhere. It is beyond all question of doubt that an avowed supporter of Wolfley, be he ever so popular a man, can not be elected to any position in Pinal county, and if that faction gains any point of advantage here it will be accomplished through manipulations neither creditable nor honorable. From the best advice to be had it seems that every county of southern Arizona, and with such strong feeling against him, should the Governor's small faction succeed by adroit means in controlling the coming convention, there will not be a republican elected on the whole ticket, for the reason that the party itself will not be represented. It is a fight for life now, and no means will be spared nor promise withheld to control the convention in August next, and from our independent standpoint we can only suggest "let'er go Gallagher."

ARIZONA fares hard at the hands of the sovereign power that fosters a lot of bloodthirsty Apaches within its borders and permits them to engage in bloody forays upon the people; withdraws its lands from private entry and stops its progress and prosperity; debases its chief mineral production; induces incompetent and unwelcome officials to execute its laws; denies its people the liberties that will better their condition and treats them as infants in swaddling clothes; takes as its infants the children of the whites and gives it to the Indians; denies us the boon of statehood; gives us no voice in the affairs of government, and yet taxes us equally with those who have these and scores of other grievances heaped upon our people, but they will meet and conquer every obstacle in their path to independence and prosperity and, possibly, forgive their present enemies.

The Benson fire has again found favorable opportunity to get in its work and has a column of telegraphic imagination in the last Sunday Chronicle, endeavoring to create an Apache scare. He spreads the alarming news that seventy of the most desperate Apaches are off the reservation and upon the warpath and that hostilities are liable to break at any time. He even quotes C. M. Bruce, the prominent cattlemen, predicting a bloody Indian war. Such a lot of nonsensical rubbish, it has not been our evil fortune to read since the culminating efforts of the Benson fire brought down upon his offending head the wrath of the outraged people of Arizona a few years ago. That he has been resurrected from his oblivion is a source of more profound regret than an actual Apache outbreak.

The last Sunday Chronicle is one of the most marvelous feats of journalism ever accomplished upon the Pacific coast. It contains sixty pages, profusely illustrated, printed with new type, its columns widened to the standard measure, and its size arranged for the most convenient perusal. The Chronicle is a splendid newspaper and its success as a representative journal of the Pacific coast, is astonishing.

Tributes favor the California fruit growers the present year. The entire fallow of the eastern fruit crops has created such a demand for the California product that even at unusually high prices the demand cannot be supplied.

George George W. McCrary, ex-Secretary of War, died in St. Joseph, Mo., last Monday, of tumor of the stomach. He was the father of E. E. McCrary, a former resident of Florence, and still owner of property interests here.

Crocker and Queensware of all kinds just received at Wildman & Co.,

HARMONY.

A PARROT AND MONKEY TIME THAT WENT BY DEFAULT.

Meeting of the Republicans at Phoenix and What They Did not do.

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QUARTZBURG.

DISCOURTES UPON CURRENT NEWS AND POLITICS.

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